

MINUTES OF THE
WORK SESSION OF THE
CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF BURLINGTON
June 4, 2007

The City Council of the City of Burlington held a regularly scheduled work session at the John Robert Kernodle Senior Activities Center on June 4, 2007, at 7:00 p.m.

Councilmembers present: Mayor Ross, Councilmembers Jones and Huffman (Councilmember Starling entered late.)

Councilmembers absent: Wall

Harold Owen, City Manager, present

Robert M. Ward, City Attorney, present

Jondeen D. Terry, City Clerk, present

Other Staff Present: Bob Harkrader, Rodger Burden, Mike Gauldin, Bonnie Blalock, Linda Jones, Gary Hicks, Bob Patterson and Jim Lauritsen

Others Present: Mac Williams and Kelly May, Alamance County Chamber of Commerce, and members of the Chamber's Board of Directors and several citizens

Media Present: Tom Boney, Alamance News, and Hannah Winkler, Times-News

A) Volunteer Handicap Parking Enforcement

Police Chief Gauldin introduced Bonnie Blalock, Identification Supervisor; Linda Jones, Parking Enforcement Supervisor; and, members of the Alamance County Mayors' Committee for Persons with Disabilities (ACMCPD). Chief Gauldin said that surrounding cities have successful programs that are similar to the one being proposed.

Ms. Blalock said that the mission of the ACMCPD was to enhance the quality of life for disabled residents by promoting public and private awareness of issues pertaining to persons and families coping with disabilities.

Ms. Blalock said that the mission of the Volunteer Handicap Paring Enforcement Team was to ensure that disabled citizens have the opportunity to utilize all available handicap parking spaces within the City limits of Burlington. The Burlington Police Department through the assistance of the Volunteer Handicap Parking Enforcement Team will monitor handicap parking spaces and issue civil citations when necessary to violators.

Ms. Blalock explained that motorists illegally park in handicap parking spaces thereby limiting availability for citizens with disabilities. Officers attempt to monitor this situation but it is very difficult for them to devote the time necessary to seek compliance given their work load and call volume. Goals of the team are to ensure that disabled citizens have the opportunity to utilize all available handicap parking spaces.

Ms. Blalock described the application process for the volunteers. She pointed out that mandatory training will be required for the volunteers and they will work under the direct supervision of the Police Department.

Councilmember Jones inquired about liability issues.

Chief Gauldin replied that the volunteers would be covered by the City's workmen's compensation and liability.

Finance Director Linda Hollifield said the names of the volunteers would be sent to the insurance companies.

Ms. Blalock said that the team would give the City valuable coverage through the use of dedicated citizens who want to make a difference. Once the public realizes volunteers could be anywhere watching for violators, these types of occurrences should be reduced.

City Attorney Ward said that implementing this team would require approval by the City Council via an ordinance amendment.

Mr. Owen said the matter would be brought to the City Council at the appropriate time.

C) Questions Concerning City Council Agenda

There were no questions concerning the agenda. Mr. Owen reminded Councilmembers that the public hearing concerning the budget would take place on June 5, 2007.

D) Stormwater Ordinance

Public Works Director Gary Hicks explained that the stormwater ordinance establishing a post-construction and illicit discharge and detection program must be adopted by July 1, 2007; therefore, he was requesting that the City Council set a date of public hearing for June 19, 2007.

Mr. Hicks pointed out that the ordinance may slow growth. He warned that it would require developers to implement procedures and that that it would add work for staff. He said Burlington's \$2 stormwater rate was the lowest in the state and that it would increase.

(Note: Councilmember Starling entered the meeting.)

Mr. Hicks said stormwater permit fees would be included during the permitting process.

Development and Technical Services Director Jim Lauritsen said that contractors who worked with engineering firms would be familiar with stormwater requirements but that others would need to be educated.

E) Boards and Commissions

Mr. Owen asked if the Council wished to select advisory board and commission members, and the consensus was to put the item on the June 19, 2007, City Council agenda.

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F) City Manager Comments

Mr. Owen mentioned that Indian Valley Golf Course had the highest revenue in its history in May.

Mr. Owen announced that there would be no meetings during the week of July 2-6, 2007.

ADJOURN

Upon motion by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Huffman, it was resolved unanimously to adjourn.

Jondeen D. Terry
City Clerk